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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/802,288	03/17/2004	David C. Newkirk	7175-74603	3617

23643 7590 08/26/2005

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INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

EXAMINER

RAMIREZ, RAMON O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3632

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/802,288

Applicant(s)

NEWKIRK ET AL.

Examiner

RAMON O. RAMIREZ

Art Unit

3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3-6 and 17-22 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,7-17 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date several dates.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

This is the second Office Action corresponding to communication filed July 7, 2005. The application contains 23 claims.

Election/Restrictions

Claims 3-6 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on July 7, 2005. However, contrary to Applicant reasoning, claims 18-22 are not illustrated in the elected species of Figs 1-3. Accordingly, these claims are also withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hadden, Sr. (Pat No 4,625,936). The patent to Hadden, Sr. discloses a line management system capable to be used with medical equipment, comprising an elongated adjustable support member (40), and a line holder (28) having an opening for receiving a line.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, and 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hadden, Sr. The elongated member is supported by a bracket (16, 20), which is capable of being mounted on a care equipment support. The bracket being movable (note is not permanently secured) and having lock means (the fastener securing the bracket). The elongated support member can be made of variant of flexible devices, including a wire with polymeric coating.

Claims 13, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hadden, Sr. in view of Ito et al. (Pat No 5,677,513). The patent to Ito et al. discloses a securing device for receiving lines comprising a spine having a plurality of arms and an opening (13). It would have obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided the device shown by Hadden, Sr with a line securing means as shown by Ito et al. to better secure the lines.

Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hadden, Sr. in view of Ito et al. and the German Patent No. 3814518. The German Patent discloses another securing device comprising arms extending at an angle forming a ramp

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for guiding a line. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided the device shown by the combination set forth above with arms extending at an angle as shown by the German Patent to provide a ramp and facilitate the insertion of the lines.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ely et al. (3,882,886), Arblaster (3,675,275), Quick (5,394,592), Chen et al. (2004/0056155), Van Etten (6,854,694) and Fig, Jr. (6,880,193) show devices of interest.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAMON O. RAMIREZ whose telephone number is (571) 272-6821. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-FRIDAY, IST FRIDAY OFF.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor ROBERT OLSZEWSKI, can be reached on (571) 272-6788.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A shortened period for response to this Office Action expires THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action.

ROR
August 22, 2005


RAMON O. RAMIREZ
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632